

3145-A

I OUTLINE OF THE PROCESS OF DRAFTING VARIOUS DRAFTS CONCERNING THE TRIFARTITE PACT OF JAPAN, GERMANY AND ITALY, AND PERTAINING DOCUMENTS (MEMO BY THE CHIEF OF THE TREATY DEPARTMENT MATSUMOTO)

1. On 5 September 1940 a plan as Annex No. 1 was drafted by Vice Foreign Minister Ohashi, the Advisors Shiratori and Saito, and presented by Foreign Minister Matsuoka to the Four-Minister Conference for consideration.

2. Prior to that, Minister Stahmer, who was specially dispatched by German Foreign Minister Ribbentrop, left Berlin on 23 August, and via Moscow arrived in Tokyo on 7 September. On 9 September he, together with Ambassador Ott, visited Minister Matsuoka at the latter's private residence for a conference, which renewed on the following day, the 10th. The record taken at that time is attached hereto as Annex No. 2.

3. This result was reported by the German side to Foreign Minister Ribbentrop, who sent a counter-proposal (Annex No. 3) by telegram. This was handed at 8:30 p.m. on 14 September by Ambassador Ott and Minister Stahmer to Minister Matsuoka. This draft differed from the original one insofar as it inserted in Paragraph III a phrase "openly or in a concealed form." (We requested this phrase be stricken out), and added the Paragraph V (concerning Soviet Russia). (This draft was made the basic subject of discussion on the Extraordinary Cabinet Meeting of 16 September and on the Imperial Conference of 19 September).

4. On the basis of this draft of Foreign Minister Ribbentrop we drafted a pact; besides, we summarized the result of the conversations with Ott and Stahmer into a Secret Protocol and two notes to be exchanged (one concerns the question of German and Italian collaboration in case of a Japanese-British conflict, and the other concerns the South Sea Islands under the Mandate). These were handed on 19 September by Advisor Saito to the German Ambassador (Annex No. 4).

5. These drafts were revised on the 20th into Annex No. 5 after taking German wishes into consideration. (Paragraph VI of the draft of the Protocol was inserted upon German request, and the end of the note concerning the Japanese-British conflict was revised).

6. On 21 September the German side presented a draft of a pact as Annex No. 6 in accordance with the instruction from the home Government (Foreign Minister Ribbentrop left Berlin on 18 and conferred with Prime Minister Mussolini and Foreign Minister Ciano on 19th and 20th concerning this matter. It is assumed therefore that this instruction came from Rome). As the explanation for revising the Paragraph III, an excerpt from the instruction as Annex No. 7 was attached. This draft was revised into Annex No. 8 on the conference of Minister Matsuoka (Matsumoto attending), Ott and Stahmer. ((1) The words of "declaration of war" was deleted because of, among others, strong opposition of the Navy, and (2) provisions concerning the Mixed Commissions were broadened so as to enable the establishment of an Economic Commission). In addition, the German side requested to drop the Protocol and other notes because they were one-sided in the present form, and it was difficult and time-consuming to perfect them in order to get the Italian consent. Thereupon, we proposed to convert the content of the Secret Protocol into a note to be exchanged only between Japan and Germany, to exchange the note concerning the Japanese-British conflict also only between Japan and Germany, and to formulate the note concerning the Mandate so as to confirm an oral statement of the German Ambassador. As a result thereof we made a draft as Annex No. 9 and sent it to the German Embassy.

7. During the conference begun at five o'clock of that evening (Minister Matsuoka, Chief of Department Matsumoto, Ott and Stahmer) the Pact was decided as Annex No. 10; as to the note concerning the Japanese-British conflict it was decided upon German request to make it a letter and number it as Annex No. 11; concerning the Mandate it was decided as Annex No. 12 (Minister Matsuoka left the conference and was substituted by Advisor Saito). As to the draft of the note containing the content of the Secret Protocol the German side did not agree, and Ambassador Ott himself dictated to the Chief of Department Matsumoto a draft of a letter of Ott as Annex No. 13 and requested that it be studied. On the same day Stahmer had told to Advisor Shiratori that the German side wished to sign this Pact in Berlin. Minister Matsuoka therefore touched the question of the place of signing during this conference, and said that if the place of signing should be Berlin, it would be an idea to make the exchange of letters between the Minister himself and Ambassador Ott.

8. In the afternoon of 23 September, the Chief of Treaty Department Matsumoto handed upon instruction of the Foreign Minister a document as Annex No. 14 to Ott and Stahmer at the German Embassy, and requested that it be sent to Berlin by telegram. On the following day, the 24th Councillor Boltze of the German Embassy visited Matsumoto and said concerning Annex No. 14 that the following telegraphic instruction was received: As to the item (1), the German Government sincerely hopes to sign in Berlin; as to the item (2), it was being considered by the German and Italian Governments; as to the item (3), it could not be accepted because it would take time to make the letter perfect as its content was one-sided.

9. At five o'clock in the evening of 24 September Minister Matsuoka (Matsumoto attending) met Ott and Stahmer. First, the Pact was decided as Annex No. 15. Next, the letter concerning the Japanese-British conflict was decided as Annex No. 16, and the letter concerning the Mandate was decided as Annex No. 17, after substituting "in a way" for "adequately" (the German side explained that the compensation was a matter of principle and can in fact be only nominal, and that, for instance, 6 sacks of coffee would be sufficient). As to the letter originating from the draft of a Secret Protocol Minister Matsuoka presented a draft as Annex No. 18; the German side thereupon presented a revised draft of Annex No. 13; after combining the both proposals a document as Annex No. 19 was drafted, which was sent to the German Embassy on the following 25th and made final.

10. At eleven o'clock a.m. of 25 September Councillor Boltze of the German Embassy visited Matsumoto to tell that the following telegram was received by the Ambassador from the German Foreign Office:

- (1) The German Government accepts the text of the Pact (in English).
- (2) The German Government is convinced that the Italian Government also will accept the text. The German Foreign Office requested that the Italian Foreign Office instruct the Italian Ambassador in Tokyo to state formally to Minister Matsuoka the acceptance of the Pact.
- (3) (a) The German Government agrees to sign the English text as a temporary measure.  
(b) That fact shall be kept absolutely secret.  
(c) About two weeks afterwards Japanese, German and the Italian texts will be secretly substituted for the English text and signed.



(d) The Letter of Credence for Ambassador Kurusu will be deposited with the German Embassy in Tokyo, and that fact will be telegraphed from the Ambassador to the German Foreign Office (concerning this point the Chief of Treaty Department said that, because in case of a treaty as this without ratification clause no formal Letter of Credence would be issued, the Foreign Minister would inform the German Ambassador in Tokyo that the Imperial Sanction was given for Ambassador Kurusu to conclude the Pact. Councillor Boltze answered that that would be sufficient).

(5) If possible, to sign the Pact on Thursday (Matsumoto said that that was practically impossible). Besides, the Ambassador desires that the draft of the Premier Minister's statement be cabled to Ambassador Kurusu and presented to the German Foreign Minister for consultation, and that the three letters be absolutely not referred to when Minister Matsuoka should see the Italian Ambassador (it was agreed in addition that of the three letters those from the Minister to the Ambassador should be in Japanese with English translation, and those from the Ambassador to the Minister should be in German with English translation).

11. The Italian Ambassador in Tokyo, Indelli, visited Minister Matsuoka at 11:30 a.m. of 25 September and stated formally that the Italian Government agreed to this Pact.

12. In the afternoon of that day Matsumoto visited Minister Stahmer at the German Embassy and stated that the signing would be possible on 27th as it was decided to present the draft of the Pact to the Privy Council on 26th. After consultation it was agreed temporarily to sign the English text at noon of 27th (Berlin time), and to telegraph this agreement to Berlin.

13. According to a telephone call from the German Embassy the signing took place at 1:15 p.m., instead of at noon, Berlin time (at 7:00 p.m. Tokyo time), as it had been agreed, because of a delay of the aeroplane of the Italian Foreign Minister.

14. After the signing at 9:30 o'clock of that evening Matsumoto carried out the exchange of the three letters with Ambassador Ott (Stahmer attending) at the German Embassy (Annex No. 20).

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Translated by  
Defense Language Branch

Secret. Foreign Office.  
No. 17.

October 1940.

Outline of the Process of Drafting Various Drafts and of the Internal  
Procedure Pertaining to the Tripartite Pact of Japan, Germany and Italy.

Treaty Department  
Foreign Office.





Annex 1

Strengthening of the Japan-Germany-Italy Axis

(Note by the Defense: identical with "Strengthening of the Japan-Germany-Italy Axis", Decisions made by the Conference of the Prime Minister and the Ministers of War, the Navy and Foreign Affairs on 4 September 1940, and by the Liaison Conference on 19 September 1940; Exhibit 541, Transcript pages 6307-6308)

The trend toward the strengthening of collaboration among Japan, Germany and Italy have lately become very pronounced, and it is believed that now the time is ripe for speedy initiation of conversations among the three countries on this matter. It is accordingly proposed to commence negotiations in accordance with the under-mentioned Basic Principles, with Germany, to start with.

Basic Principles

1. To make a fundamental agreement among the three countries, in order that they shall mutually cooperate by all possible means in the establishment of a New Order in Europe and in Asia.
2. To carry out consultations among the three countries in as short a period of time as possible in regard to the best means of the above-mentioned cooperation.

3. To begin with, publicity will be given, at home and abroad, to the purpose in 1 and 2 above, in the form of a joint declaration of the three countries.

Draft of Basic Principles Concerning Negotiations  
for a Military Alliance  
~~Strengthening of Japan-Germany-Italy Collaboration~~

4 September 1940  
~~6 August 1940~~

Original Draft made by the Army and the Navy;

Revision (in red letters in the original document)

made by the Foreign Office.

(Note by the Defense: Revised text is identical with "Basic Principles concerning Negotiations for a Military Alliance" of Exhibit 541, Transcript Pages 6310-6321)

~~1 Principle~~

1. Japan, Germany and Italy, recognizing the fact that they stand on common ground in regard to the construction of the New World Order, will arrive at <sup>a mutual</sup> ~~an~~ understanding with ~~mutually~~ respect to support <sup>for</sup> the establishment and administration of their Spheres of Living and also in regard to cooperation. <sup>Britain,</sup> concerning their policies toward <sup>the</sup> Soviet Union and the United States. (See Appendix 1)

Annex 1

~~2. Details~~

~~1. A fundamental understanding will be reached at between Japan and the two countries of Germany and Italy on the basis of the above Principle (See Appendix 1)~~

~~Note:~~ On the basis of this fundamental understanding such further agreements as may be necessary will be concluded among Japan, Germany and Italy, or between Japan and Germany, and between Japan and Italy.

2. Japan, Germany and Italy will, along with the above-mentioned fundamental understanding speedily arrive at an understanding with respect to their mutual support and cooperation concerning the China Incident and the European War, by which they are respectively confronted. (see Appendix 2)

3. ~~The above-mentioned matter will be carried out according to the followings:~~

a) The negotiations under 1 and 2 above will be conducted in accordance with the Basic Essentials for the Strengthening of Japan-Germany-Italy Collaboration (in Appendix 3) and on the basis of the Main Principles Governing Negotiations (in Appendix 4).

b) ~~The above-mentioned 1 will be carried out in Berlin and Rome.~~



~~c) The above-mentioned 2 will be proposed in Berlin and Rome, and concrete negotiations will be conducted in Tokyo.~~

4. The understanding mentioned above need not necessarily take the form of agreements, but, if Germany and Italy so desire, there is no objection to the conclusion of agreements in this connection.

Appendix 1

Terms of Political Understanding Forming the Basis for the Strengthening of Japan-Germany-Italy Collaboration.

(Note by the Defense: Revised text is identical with Appendix)  
( 1 of Exhibit 541, Transcripts Pages )  
( 6310-6312 )

1. Japan and the two countries of Germany and Italy, recognizing the fact that they stand on common ground in regard to the construction of a New World Order, for the realization of which they are presently putting forth their efforts, ~~cooperate each other for the support and improvement of an equitable world peace.~~
2. ~~Japan and the two countries of Germany and Italy respectively, for the purpose of establishing New Orders, will~~

mutually respect the Japanese Sphere of Living in East Asia, including the South Seas, and the German and the Italian Sphere of Living in Europe and Africa; and will cooperate by all possible means, ~~support each other for the construction of New Orders in~~ Orders in the said regions.

2. Japan and the two countries of Germany and Italy will mutually effect close economic cooperation. with this end in view, they will carry out the preferential mutual interchange of material resources existing in their Spheres of Living and the exchange of techniques, and will also accord favourable consideration to the other party's economic activities in their <sup>respective</sup> own Spheres of Living.

3. Japan and the two countries of Germany and Italy will cooperate in maintaining peace with the Soviet Union and in inducing the Soviet Union to bring her policy into line with the common ground of the two contracting parties. (In addition, an understanding will also be reached with ~~at the same time, they will further consult~~ respect to consultation, as to the action to be taken in the event of a danger ~~either Japan or Germany and Italy,~~ of one of the parties entering upon a state of war with the Soviet Union, if, in the course of negotiations with Germany and Italy, it turns out that such desire is entertained by the two countries.)

- 4.
5. Japan and the two countries of Germany and Italy will mutually cooperate in order not to allow the United States, the Western Hemisphere and the United States possessions, to interfere in regions other than ~~the American Continent~~ and also in order to safeguard the political and economic interests of both contracting parties in this connection. Further, in the event of danger of either contracting party entering upon a state of war with the United States, the other contracting party will assist that party by all ~~both contracting parties will consult as to the measures to~~ possible means.  
~~be taken.~~

Japan and the two countries of Germany and Italy will closely cooperate with respect to the action to be taken in regard to Central and South America.

Note: The present understanding will be treated as confidential.

#### Appendix 2

Terms of Understanding concerning the Mutual Support and Cooperation of Japan and the two Countries of Germany and Italy in regard to the European War and the China Incident

(Note by the Defense: Revised text is identical with Appendix )  
( 2 of Exhibit 541, Transcript Pages )  
( 6312-6314 )

1. Japan and the two countries of Germany and Italy, in settling



the China Incident and the European War, by which the two contracting parties are respectively confronted, will effect mutual support and cooperation as follows:

Japan will

a) accord as much facility as possible in meeting the desires of Germany and Italy in regard to the acquisition of <sup>natural and</sup> material resources existing in East Asia, including South Seas; and

b) Cooperate as much as possible in intensifying the pressure upon British influence in East Asia, including the South Seas; and in facilitating the prosecution of war by Germany and Italy against Britain.

Germany and Italy will

a) Cooperate as much as possible in regard to the supply of such machinery and similar articles, and in regard to such technical assistance, as may be desired by Japan;

and

b) Give as much political and economic cooperation as possible in  
~~Cooperate for the settlement of the China Incident.~~

Note: The present understanding will be treated as confidential.

Appendix 3

Basic Essentials for the Strengthening of  
Japan-Germany-Italy Collaboration

(Note by the Defense: Revised text is identical with Appendix 3  
( of Exhibit 541, Transcript Pages 6314-6320 )

1. Concerning Japan's Sphere of Living for the construction  
Greater  
of a <sup>Greater</sup> East Asia New Order.

- a) The sphere to be envisaged in the course of negotiations  
with Germany and Italy as Japan's Sphere of Living for  
the construction of a <sup>Greater</sup> East Asia New Order will  
comprise:

The former German Islands under Mandate, French Indo-China and Pacific Islands, Thailand, British Malaya, British Borneo, Dutch East Indies, Burma, Anstralia, New Zealand, India etc., with Japan, Manchuria and China as the back-bone. It is understood, however, that the South Sea Region to be indicated by Japan in conducting the negotiations will be the region from Burma eastward, including the Dutch East Indies, and New Calidonia

it is further understood that India may be northward; ~~as to Australia, New Zealand and India, our~~ recognized, for the immediate purposes as being included ~~intentions as described under (e) and (f) below will be~~ in the Sphere of Living of the Soviet Union.  
reflected.

~~b) Measures will be taken to Annexed the former German Islands under Japanese Mandate to our territory; as to the former German Islands in the Pacific now under British Mandate it will be endeavoured to dispose of them so as they can be brought, as far as possible, under Japanese control in consideration of strategic necessities vis a vis the United States.~~

<sup>b</sup>  
~~a)~~ The goal in regard to the Dutch East Indies is to have it in a state of preparedness for independence, but the <sup>secure recognition of Japan's position of</sup> immediate objective will be to ~~bring them under political~~ political and economic predominance in that country. ~~influence of Japan.~~

In this connection, if German proposals should be at variance with the above proposition, recognition should still be obtained of Japan's <sup>predominant position</sup> political leadership in the Dutch East Indies through the preferential supply to material and Japan of <sup>material and</sup> natural resources existing in that country, through the guarantee for the continuance of the already existing German economic undertakings there, and by negotiations of a political nature on the matters in general.

<sup>c</sup>  
~~a)~~ The same principles as in <sup>b</sup> (a) above will be followed with respect to French Indo-China.

~~a). Although Australia and New Zealand are somewhat different from the other regions, Japan feels similar concern about them, and, therefore, does not desire that they be changed into territories or brought under control of countries not belonging to East Asia.~~



~~f) Approximately, the same principle as in (e) above will  
b) followed with respect to India.~~

2. Concerning Japan-Germany-Italy economic cooperation.

a) With regard to trade, Japan will supply Germany and Italy with agricultural, forestry and aquatic products of Japan, Manchuria and China, and will also cooperate in supplying Germany and Italy with special mineral products, rubber and other articles of China, French Indo-China, the Dutch East Indies, etc. Germany and Italy, on their part, will supply Japan with such technical assistance, aircraft, machinery, chemical products, etc., as may be required by Japan.

With regard to mutual economic activities, Japan will, especially in China and Manchuria; accord de facto preferential treatment to Germany and Italy, and enable the participation of their technique and equipment.

b) For the above-mentioned purposes, there will be separately concluded an Economic Agreement, a Trade Agreement and a Payment Agreement.

3. Concerning Japan's attitude toward Japan-Germany-Italy cooperation in regard to the Soviet Union and the United States.

Being destined to be the leader of East Asia in the postwar new order of things wherein it is anticipated that the world

will be divided into the four large fields of East Asia, the Soviet Union, Europe and the American Continents, Japan, acting in close collaboration with Germany and Italy which will constitute the guiding force of Europe, will.

- a) Restrain the Soviet Union on the east, west and south, and, inducing the Soviet Union so to act as to align with the common ground of Japan, Germany and Italy, endeavour to cause the advance of the Soviet sphere of influence to be oriented toward a direction where the advance has little direct effect upon the interests of Japan, Germany and Italy, a direction such as Gulf of Persia advance toward India may have to be recognized).

- b) While peaceful means will be adhered to far as possible in dealing with the United States, contrive to bring about a posture of things wherein Japan can, as occasion may require, bring pressure to bear upon the United States through political and economic collaboration with Germany and Italy in the East Asian and European fields, so that such posture of things can contribute toward the attainment of Japan's aspirations.

In taking these steps, Japan will keep it in mind to make the best of inducing the Soviet Union.

Further, Japan will make use of the immigrant and economic

foothold, both of importance, which Germany and Italy presently have in South America, in regard to such steps as Japan may in future take with respect to the United States.

4. Concerning Japan's attitude towards the <sup>anti-British</sup> collaboration of Japan, Germany and Italy ~~with Germany and Italy~~ ~~against Britain~~.

a) Japan will, in the construction of an East Asian New Order, take such steps as the situation may require, in order to eliminate the political <sup>and economic</sup> interests of Britain in East Asia, including the South Seas. Such steps are intended to weaken Britain's position. Fact shows that the policy which Japan is already taking toward Britain and China is automatically producing an effective influence on the war situation in Europe).

b) With a view to furthering her cooperation with Germany and Italy in their prosecution of war against Britain, <sup>(in meeting the desires of Germany and Italy)</sup> Japan will spare no cooperative effort on her part <sup>and material</sup> regard to the acquisition of natural resources existing <sup>(including the South Seas.)</sup> in East Asia, ~~as desired by Germany and Italy.~~

Further, Japan will in large measure cooperate with Germany and Italy in the war against Britain, in respect of the elimination of British interests in East Asia, <sup>anti-British</sup> ~~the collaboration in~~ demonstration and propaganda, the



the support of independence movements in the colonies  
of Britain  
and dependencies, and other matters.

- 5) Concerning the possible use of armed force against  
and the United States  
Britain, Japan will make decisions independently in ac-  
cordance with the following principles:

(1) In the event that the China Incident has nearly been  
settled, Japan will use armed force by taking as  
favourable an opportunity, as may be afforded by the  
situation prevailing at home and abroad.

(2) In the event that the China Incident has not yet  
it will be Japan's guiding principle to take action,  
been settled, measures will be taken within limits  
short of war. If, however, domestic and foreign  
conditions take a decidedly favourable turn, <sup>or if it</sup> ~~armed~~  
is deemed that, irrespective of whether our prepar-  
~~force might be used.~~  
tions are complete or not, the development of the  
international situation permits of no further delay,  
Japan will resort to armed force.

(3) The "domestic and foreign conditions" signify the  
European situation, especially the state of adjust-  
ment of our relations with the Soviet Union, the  
United States' attitude toward us, our preparations  
for war, and so forth.

Appendix 4

Main Principles Governing Negotiations

(Note by the Defense: Revised text is identical with Appendix )  
( 4 of Exhibit 541, Transcript Pages )  
( 6320-6321 )

~~1. In order to realize the strengthening of collaboration, the present opportunity should not be missed, when Germany and Italy are concentrating their whole efforts for the defeat of Britain. Should the negotiations be commenced after the victory of Germany and Italy has become definite, the effect would very much be diminished; moreover, attitude of Germany which has considerable concern about South Seas might undergo some change.~~

~~The negotiations will be conducted with Germany and Italy separately. However, if Germany and Italy wish that negotiations be conducted among the three countries, consent could be given thereto.~~

~~2. Terms of Understanding concerning the Mutual Support and Cooperation in regard to the European War and the China Incident will be presented together with the Basic Essentials in proposing the strengthening the collaboration with Germany and Italy, and discussions as to their contents will~~

~~be conducted in Tokyo; however, the above-mentioned two understandings should be treated as one and indivisible.~~

1.  
3. The principal purpose of the negotiations under Paragraph 2, Appendix 1, which is designed to have Germany and Italy recognize and respect Japan's Sphere of Living in East Asia, including the South Seas, is to obtain overall recognition of Japan's <sup>position of predominance</sup> ~~political leadership~~ in the whole of East Asia, including the South Seas.

should, however, Germany and Italy be inclined to make any reservations in regard to any designated areas, Japan will conduct negotiations on each particular matter concerning such areas in pursuance of Paragraph (1), (a), and ensuing principles of Appendix 3 (Basic Essentials for the Strengthening of Japan-Germany-Italy Collaboration), and thus secure recognition of Japan's aspirations in these connections.

2.  
4. In the event that Germany and Italy propounds a desire for and the United States Japanese military cooperation with them against Britain, Japan is prepared, as a matter of guiding principle, to meet the desire. It will be explained to Germany and Italy, however, that, in view of the existing state of affairs, Japan contemplates taking the courses of action outlined under (1), (2) and (3) in Paragraph 5, Appendix 4 (Basic



Essentials for the Strengthening of Japan-Germany-Italy Collaboration), with respect to the use of armed force, i.e., participation in the war.

Germany and Italy will be enabled by such explanations to understand Japan's position, and, at the same time, efforts will be made to the end that Germany and Italy will cooperate with us in improving domestic and foreign conditions relating to Japan's entry into the war against and the United States Britain.

Annex 20

Three Powers Pact between Japan, Germany and Italy

(Note by the Defense: Original texts in Japanese, German and Italian languages)

The Governments of Japan, Germany and Italy, considering it as the condition precedent to any lasting peace that all nations of the world be give each its own proper place, have decided to stand by and co-operate with one another in regard to their efforts in Greater East Asia and the regions of Europe respectively wherein it is their prime purpose to establish and maintain a new order of things calculated to promote mutual prosperity and welfare of the people concerned. Furthermore, it is the desire of the three Governments to extend co-operation to such nations in other spheres of the world as may be inclined to put forth endeavours along lines similar to their own, in order that their ultimate aspirations for world peace may thus be realized. Accordingly the Governments of Japan, Germany and Italy have agreed as follows:

Article 1

Japan recognizes and respects the leadership of Germany and Italy in the establishment of a new order in Europe.

Article 2

Germany and Italy recognize and respect the leadership of Japan in the establishment of a new order in Greater East Asia.

Article 3

Japan, Germany and Italy agree to co-operate in their efforts on the aforesaid lines. They further undertake to assist one another with all political, economic and military means when one of the three Contracting Parties is attacked by a power at present not involved in the European War or in the Sino-Japanese Conflict.

Article 4

With a view to implementing the present Pact, Joint Technical Commissions, the members of which are to be appointed by the respective Governments of Japan, Germany and Italy, will meet without delay.

Article 5

Japan, Germany and Italy affirm that the aforesaid terms do not in any way affect the political status which exists at present as between each of the three Contracting Parties and Soviet Russia.

Article 6

The present Pact shall come into effect immediately upon signature and shall remain in force for ten years from the date of its coming into force.

At proper time before the expiration of the said term the High Contracting Parties shall, at the request of any one of



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them, enter into negotiations for its renewal.

In face thereof, the Undersigned, duly authorized by their respective Governments, have signed this Pact and have affixed hereto their seals.

Done in triplicate at Berlin, the 27th day of the 9th month of the 15th year of Showa, corresponding to the 27th September 1940, 27th September of the 18th year of the Fascist Era.

Saburo Kurusu

Joachim von Ribbentrop

Ciano

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STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

(Draft)

LETTER FROM THE FOREIGN MINISTER TO THE GERMAN  
AMBASSADOR.

Excellency:

I have the honour to ask Your Excellency to confirm the following oral declaration which was made by Your Excellency on behalf of the German Government:

"The German Government agree that the former German Colonies actually under Japan's Mandate in the South Seas shall remain in Japan's possession, it being understood that Germany be in a way compensated therefor. In regard to other former colonies in the South Seas, they shall be restored automatically to Germany upon conclusion of peace ending the present European War. Afterwards the German Government would be prepared to confer, in an accommodating spirit, with the Japanese Government with a view to disposing of them as far as possible in Japan's favour against compensation."

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the highest consideration.

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STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

(Draft)

LETTER FROM THE GERMAN AMBASSADOR TO THE FOREIGN  
MINISTER.

Excellency:

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of Your Excellency's letter of this date, No. 1111, and to confirm the oral declaration set forth therein as made by me concerning the former German Colonies in the South Seas.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the highest consideration.

PERSONAL LETTER OF THE GERMAN AMBASSADOR TO HIS EXCEL-  
LENCY THE IMPERIAL JAPANESE FOREIGN MINISTER.

Excellency:

At the moment when our conversations, begun on the 9th instant at Tokyo, are about to eventuate in a successful conclusion of the Three Powers Pact, it is Minister Stahmer's and my sincerest desire to tender to Your Excellency the expression of deepest appreciation for the principal part Your Excellency has played throughout in a most generous and accommodating spirit.

We wish to take this occasion to state once more in this letter some of the salient points reiterated in our conversations with Your Excellency which are as follows:

The German Government are convinced that the Contracting Parties are about to enter into a new and decisive phase of world history in which it will be their task to assume the leadership in the establishment of a new order in Greater East Asia and Europe respectively.

The fact that for a long time to come their interests will coincide and the unrestricted mutual confidence of the Contracting Parties from the solid foundation on which the Pact is built.

The German Government firmly believe that the technical details concerning the execution of the Pact will be settled without difficulties and that it would not be in keeping with the far-reaching importance of the Pact and it would be practically impossible to anticipate all possible cases which might arise in the course of its application, they can only be dealt with in the spirit of mutual confidence and

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helpfulness as they arise from time to time.

Conclusions of the Technical Commissions stipulated in article 4. of the Pact shall be submitted to the respective Governments for approval in order to be put in force.

It is needless to say that whether or not a Contracting Party has been attacked within the meaning of article 3. of the Pact shall be determined upon consultation among the three Contracting Parties.

If Japan, contrary to the intentions of the Pact, should be attacked by a Power so far not engaged in the European War or the China Incident, Germany will consider it a matter of course to give Japan full support and assist it with all military and economic means.

With regard to the relations between Japan and Soviet Russia, Germany will do everything within its power to promote a friendly understanding and will at any time offer its food offices to this end.

Germany will use her industrial capacity and other resources technical and material as far as possible in favour of Japan in order both to facilitate the establishment of a new order in Greater East Asia and to enable her to be better prepared for any emergency. Germany and Japan will further undertake mutually to aid each other in procuring in every possible way raw materials and minerals including oil which they will have been in need of.

The German Foreign Minister implicitly believes that Italy will of course act in concord with Germany and Japan when and where assistance

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and co-operation by Italy is sought in reference to the matters above enumerated.

I have the honour to present to Your Excellency the above exposé as the views of the German Foreign Minister conveyed personally by his special delegate, Minister Stahmer, and repeatedly transmitted to me from my Government.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the assurance of my highest consideration.

gez. Ott.

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

(Draft)

PERSONAL LETTER OF THE GERMAN AMBASSADOR TO HIS  
EXCELLENCY THE IMPERIAL JAPANESE FOREIGN MINISTER.

Excellency:

At the moment when our conversations, begun in the 9th instant at Tokyo, are about to eventuate in a successful conclusion of the Three Powers Pact, it is Minister Stahmer's and my sincerest desire to tender to Your Excellency the expression of deepest appreciation for the principal part Your Excellency has played throughout in a most generous and accommodating spirit.

We wish to take this occasion to state once more in this letter some of the salient points reiterated in our conversations with Your Excellency which are as follows:

The German Government are convinced that the Contracting Parties are about to enter into a new and decisive phase of world history in which it will be their task to assume the leadership in the establishment of a new order in Greater East Asia and Europe respectively.

The fact that for a long time to come their interests will coincide and the unrestricted mutual confidence of the Contracting Parties from the solid foundation on which the Pact is built.

The German Government firmly believe that the technical details concerning the execution of the Pact will be settled without difficulties and that it would not be in keeping with the far-reaching importance of the Pact and it would be practically impossible to anticipate all possible cases which might arise in the course of its application; they can only be dealt with in the spirit of mutual confidence and helpfulness as they arise from time to time.

Conclusions of the Technical Commissions stipulated in Article 4 of the Pact shall be submitted to the respective Governments for approval in order to be put in force.

It is needless to say that whether or not a Contracting Party has been attacked within the meaning of Article 3 of the Pact shall be determined upon consultation among the three Contracting Parties.

If Japan, contrary to the intention of the Pact, should be attacked by a Power so far not engaged in the European War on the China Incident, Germany will consider it a matter of course to give Japan full support and assist it with all military and economic means.

With regard to the relations between Japan and Soviet Russia Germany will do everything within its power to promote a friendly understanding and will at any time offer its good offices to this end.

Germany will use her industrial capacity and other resources technical and material, as far as possible, in favour of Japan in order both to facilitate the establishment of a new order in Greater East Asia and to enable her to be better prepared for any



emergency. Germany and Japan will further undertake mutually to aid each other in procuring in every possible way raw materials and minerals including oil, which they will have been in need of.

The German Foreign Minister implicitly believes that Italy will, of course, act in concord with Germany and Japan when and where assistance and cooperation by Italy is sought in reference to the matters above enumerated.

I have the honour to present to Your Excellency the above expose as the views of the German Foreign Minister conveyed personally by his special delegate, Minister Stahmer, and repeatedly transmitted to me from my Government.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the assurance of my highest consideration.

gez. OTT

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(Draft)

LETTER FROM FOREIGN MINISTER TO GERMAN AMBASSADOR

Excellency:

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of Your Excellency's letter No. 1111 of this date and I feel happy to take note of the contents therein.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the highest consideration.

B. Annex No. 1

"Strengthening of the Japan-Germany-Italy Axis."

(Identical with "Strengthening of the Japan-Germany-Italy Axis", Decisions made by the Conference of the Prime Minister and the Ministers of War, the Navy and Foreign Affairs on 4 September 1940, and by the Liaison Conference on 19 September 1940, of the Exhibit 541, Transcript pages 6307-6308).

C. "Draft of Basic Principles concerning Negotiations for a Military Alliance."

Original Draft by Army and Navy, revised by the Foreign Office.

D. "Terms of Political Understanding Forming the Basis for the Strengthening of Japan-Germany-Italy collaboration".

E. "Terms of Understanding concerning the Mutual Support and Cooperation of Japan and the Two Countries of Germany and Italy in regard to the European War and China Incident."

F. "Basic Essentials for the Strengthening of Japan-Germany-Italy collaboration."

G. "Main Principles Governing Negotiations"

(C-G are identical with "Basic Principles concerning Negotiations for a Military Alliance", and its 4 Appendices, of the Exhibit 541, Transcript pages 6310-6321)

AD1 "Three pact between Japan, German and Italy" (Identical with "Three pact between Japan, German and Italy" of the Exhibit 43)

*Part of Annex 20*

*July-20, Cont.*

(Draft)

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

PERSONAL LETTER OF THE GERMAN AMBASSADOR TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE IMPERIAL JAPANESE FOREIGN MINISTER.

Excellency:

At the moment when our conversations, begun on the 9th instant at Tokyo, are about to eventuate in a successful conclusion of the Three Powers Pact, it is Minister Stahmer's and my sincerest desire to tender to Your Excellency the expression of deepest appreciation for the principal part Your Excellency has played throughout in a most generous and accommodating spirit.

We wish to take this occasion to state once more in this letter some of the salient points reiterated in our conversations with Your Excellency which are as follows:

The German Government are convinced that the Contracting Parties are about to enter into a new and decisive phase of world history in which it will be their task to assume the leadership in the establishment of a new order in Greater East Asia and Europe respectively.

The fact that for a long time to come their interests will coincide and the unrestricted mutual confidence of the Contracting Parties from the solid foundation on which the Pact is built.

The German Government firmly believe that the technical details concerning the execution of the Pact will be settled without difficulties and that it would not be in keeping with the far reaching importance of the Pact and it would be practically impossible to anticipate all possible cases which might arise in the course of its application; they can only be dealt with in the spirit of mutual confidence and helpfulness as they arise from time to time.

Conclusion of the Technical Commissions stipulated in Article 4 of the Pact shall be submitted to the respective Governments for approval in order to be put in force.

It is needless to say that whether or not a Contracting Party has been attacked within the meaning of Article 3 of the Pact, shall be determined upon consultation among the three Contracting Parties.

If Japan, contrary to the intentions of the Pact, should be attacked by a Power so far not engaged in the European War, or the China Incident, Germany will consider it a matter of course to give Japan full support and assist it with all military and economic means.

With regard to the relations between Japan and Soviet Russia, Germany will do everything within its power to promote a friendly understanding and will at any time offer its good offices to this end.



Germany will use her industrial capacity and other resources technical and material, as far as possible, in favour of Japan in order both to facilitate the establishment of a new order in Greater East Asia and to enable her to be better prepared for any emergency. Germany and Japan will further undertake mutually to aid each other in procuring in every possible way raw materials and minerals including oil, which they will have been in need of.

The German Foreign Minister implicitly believes that Italy will, of course, act in concert with Germany and Japan when and where assistance and cooperation by Italy is sought in reference to the matters above enumerated.

I have the honour to present to Your Excellency the above expose as the views of the German Foreign Minister conveyed personally by his special delegate, Minister Stahmer, and repeatedly transmitted to me from my Government.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the assurance of highest consideration.

gez. Ott

Def. Doc. No. 1656-AD<sub>3</sub>

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

(Draft)

LETTER FROM THE FOREIGN MINISTER TO THE GERMAN  
AMBASSADOR.

Excellency:

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of Your Excellency's letter No. G-1000 of this date, and I feel happy to take note of the contents therein.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the highest consideration.

Defense Document No. 1656-AD4

Strictly Confidential

*Copy 20 Cont.*

LETTER FROM THE FOREIGN MINISTER  
TO THE GERMAN AMBASSADOR

Excellency:

I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that, the Japanese Government earnestly share the hope with the Governments of Germany and Italy that the present European War will remain limited as far as possible in its sphere and scope and will come to a speedy conclusion and that they shall on their part spare no effort in that direction.

However, the conditions actually prevailing in Greater East Asia and elsewhere do not permit the Japanese Government to rest assured in the present circumstances that there is no danger whatever of an armed conflict taking place between Japan and Great Britain, and accordingly they desire to call attention of the German Government to such possibility and to state that they feel confident that Germany will do their utmost to aid Japan in such eventuality with all means in their power.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the highest consideration.



*June 20 Cont.*

Strictly Confidential

LETTER FROM THE GERMAN AMBASSADOR  
TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER

Excellency:

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of  
Your Excellency's letter of this date Jyo-ni No. 133  
with the contents as follows:

"I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that,  
the Japanese Government earnestly share the hope with the  
Governments of Germany and Italy that the present European  
War will remain limited as far as possible in its  
sphere and scope and will come to a speedy conclusion  
and that they shall on their part spare no effort in that  
direction.

However, the conditions actually prevailing in  
Greater East Asia and elsewhere do not permit the Japanese  
Government to rest assured in the present circumstances  
that there is no danger whatever of an armed conflict  
taking place between Japan and Great Britain, and  
accordingly they desire to call attention of the German  
Government to such a possibility and to state that they  
feel confident that Germany will do their utmost to aid  
Japan in such eventuality with all means in their power."

I take this occasion to note the contents of Your  
Excellency's letter.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to  
Your Excellency the highest consideration.

Defense Document 1656-AD6

Strictly Confidential

*Amul 20 Cont.*

LETTER FROM THE FOREIGN MINISTER TO  
THE GERMAN AMBASSADOR

Excellency:

I have the honour to ask Your Excellency to confirm the following oral declaration which was made by Your Excellency on behalf of the German Government:

"The German Government agree that the former German Colonies actually under Japan's Mandate in the South Seas shall remain in Japan's possession, it being understood that Germany be in a way compensated therefor. In regard to other former Colonies in the South Seas, they shall be restored automatically to Germany upon conclusion of peace ending the recent European War. Afterwards the German Government would be prepared to confer, in an accommodating spirit, with the Japanese Government with a view to dispose of them as far as possible in Japan's favour against compensation."

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your excellency the highest consideration.

Defense Document 1656-AD7

Strictly Confidential

*Amey 20 Cont.*

LETTER FROM THE GERMAN AMBASSADOR  
TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER

Excellency:

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of Your Excellency's letter of this date Jyo-ni No. 134 and to confirm the oral declaration set forth therein as made by me concerning the former German Colonies in the South Seas.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the highest consideration.



Amend - 2

Translated by  
Defense Language Branch

## Annex No. 2

On the tenth of September 1940 the Foreign Minister conferred at his private residence with Minister Stanner and the German Ambassador in Japan, and after exchanging questions and answers in continuance of the previous day, read the private and tentative plan of the Foreign Minister as of Appendix A, explaining that it was a summary of statement by the German side on the first conference of the ninth of September, and that it would be binding for nobody other than the Foreign Minister as an individual. He handed then at the same time a copy of the above and requested that it be studied. The two visited again the Foreign Minister at his private residence on the eleventh of September (10.15--10.45 hours), presented a counter-proposal as of Appendix B, and explained the content saying that only Paragraph III was different from the private plan of the Foreign Minister. They added further that the counter-proposal was a private plan of them only and was not binding for the German Government.

*Appendix A Group 2*

TENTATIVE FORMULA

- I. Japan to recognize and respect the leadership of Germany and Italy in the establishment of a new order in Europe.
- II. Germany and Italy to recognize and respect the leadership of Japan in the establishment of a new order in Greater East Asia.
- III. Japan, Germany and Italy to agree mutually to cooperate in their efforts on aforesaid lines and to consult with one another as to the suitable and effective means to remove and overcome any and all obstacles and hindrances to the achievement of their respective aims.
- IV. Japan, Germany and Italy to agree to pull together and co-ordinate their endeavours with a view to establishing a new world order to meet the changed and changing world conditions, which alone can be a just and durable foundation for peace.

*Appendix B Annex 2*  
TENTATIVE FORMULA.

I. Japan to recognize and respect the leadership of Germany and Italy in the establishment of a new order in Europe.

II. Germany and Italy to recognize and respect the leadership of Japan in the establishment of a <sup>new</sup> order in Greater East Asia.

III. Japan, Germany and Italy to agree mutually to cooperate and to consult in their efforts on aforesaid lines and to assist one another with all political, economical and military means when one of the three powers concerned will be attacked by a power not included in the present European war or the Japanese-Chinese conflict.

IV. Japan, Germany and Italy to agree to pull together and coordinate their endeavours with a view to establishing a new world order to meet the changed and changing world conditions which alone can be a just and durable foundation for peace.



*Germany - 2 - Cont.*

Contents of the attached document is a memorandum containing the gist of conversations between the Foreign Minister, Minister Heinrich Stahmer and German Ambassador in Japan, Eugen Ott, which took place on the ninth (17:00-19:00 hours) and the tenth (17:30-18:30 hours).

The Foreign Minister read the above to Minister Stahmer and Ambassador Ott on a interview of the eleventh of September (10,15-10,45 hours), and handed Minister Stahmer a copy of the memorandum written with pencil, after the correctness of it had been confirmed by the other side.

AD Tripartite Alliance of Japan, Germany and Italy  
(identical with the Exhibit 43, Transcript pages 6391-6393)

*Annex 2 - Cont.*

SOME OF THE SALIENT POINTS IN THE INFORMAL  
CONFERENCES BETWEEN MATSUOKA AND STAHLER,  
WITH THE GERMAN AMBASSADOR ASSISTING.

1. Germany does not want the present conflict develop into a World War, and wishes to bring it to termination as quickly as possible. She particularly wants the United States to stay out.
2. Germany does not look for Japan's military assistance at this juncture in connection with her war with England.
3. What she wishes of Japan is to have Japan play the role of restraining and preventing the U.S. from entering the war, by all means. Although Germany thinks at present that the U.S. will not enter the war, she cannot take chance.
4. Germany hardly thinks that she and the U.S. will come to blows in the near future, but that the clash and war between Japan and the U.S. cannot eventually be avoided.
5. It is, so Germany believes, to the mutual advantage of both, Japan and Germany (of course Italy to be included) to enter into an understanding or agreement, whereby they will be thoroughly prepared effectively to meet emergency, at any moment. This can only prevent, if anything can prevent, America from entering the present war, or entering into an armed conflict with Japan in the future.
6. A strong and determined attitude, unequivocal and unmistakable, on the part of the three nations, Japan, Germany and Italy, and the knowledge of it by the U.S. and the world at large at this juncture, that alone can only be of a powerful and effective deterrent on the U.S. A weak, lukewarm attitude or declaration at this juncture will only invite derision and danger.
7. Germany hopes Japan will also size up the situation, and will realize the magnitude and the reality of the potential (may be impending, who knows) danger coming from the Western Hemisphere, and will act quickly and decisively to forestall it by reaching an agreement between the three (Japan, Germany and Italy) of such a nature that neither the U.S. nor the rest of the world would be left in doubt, conjecturing.
8. Hardly necessary to say that Germany (and Italy) will do everything in her power to restrain the U.S. on the Atlantic and will at once start supplying Japan with as much of the war equipment (such as aeroplanes, tanks and other war tools with men even, if Japan wishes it) as she can reasonably spare, and will otherwise help her in every possible way. (Matsuoka remarked that these things might and in fact will have to be left to a sort of mixed military and naval commission of the Axis, granted that Japan joins the Axis in the sense and in the way Germany wants).
9. Of course, Germany recognizes and respects the political leadership in Greater East Asia. All she wants in these regions is of economic nature, and she is ready to cooperate with Japan to further her aims. Naturally she looks to Japan to do her best to accommodate German enterprises and to enable Germany to obtain in these regions materials she needs and may need.

*Annex - 3*  
FORMULA OF THE GERMAN FOREIGN MINISTER

- I. Japan recognises and respects the leadership of Germany and Italy in the establishment of a new order in Europe.
- II. Germany and Italy recognise and respect the leadership of Japan in the establishment of a new order on Greater East Asia.
- III. Japan, Germany and Italy agree to cooperate in their efforts on the aforesaid lines. They further undertake to assist one another with all political, economic and military means when one of the three powers concerned will either openly or in concealed form be attacked by a power at present not included in the European war or in the Japanese-Chinese conflict.
- IV. Japan, Germany and Italy agree to cooperate and to coordinate their endeavours with a view to establishing a new world order to meet the changed and changing world conditions, which is alone a just and endurable foundation of peace.
- V. Japan, Germany and Italy agree that the aforesaid terms do not in any way affect the present political status between the three aforementioned powers and Soviet Russia.
- VI. Japan, Germany and Italy will, without delay, conclude a treaty laying down the details of the application of the aforementioned terms.



10. Better to reach agreement between Germany, Italy and Japan first and then immediately to approach Soviet Russia. Germany is prepared to act part of an honest broker on the question of rapprochement between Japan and Soviet Russia, and she can see no unsurmountable obstacle on the path, may be settled with much difficulty. Germany-Soviet relations are good, contrary to what the British propaganda tries to represent, and Russia is carrying out to the satisfaction of Germany all her engagements.

11. Despite the fact that the Axis (including Japan) must be thoroughly prepared to meet the worst emergency, Germany will, on the other hand, make use of every means in her power to prevent the clashing between the U.S. and Japan, and even to improve the relations between the two, if it is humanly possible.

12. Germany, in asking to join the Axis in the fullest sense of the world and that quickly, before the war against England closes, is taking a long view of carrying on stupendous struggle against the British Empire, not to say the Anglo-Saxondom including America. The present war may end before long, but this great struggle will go on for tens of years yet, in one form or another. (Matsuoka emphasized this phase). Let the three (Germany, Italy and Japan) stand together knitted very closely until the great aim is finally achieved.

13. As to when Italy should be asked to join in the present discussion, the Germany Foreign Minister will consider and let the Japanese Foreign Minister know. The Germany Government has not yet conferred with Italy. Neither Stahmer nor anyone on the German side has seen the Soviet official on the matter.

14. Stahmer's words may be regarded as coming directly from Ribbentrop.

15. The Japanese Foreign Minister also made observation on several points, but they are not noted here.

THREE POWERS PACT BETWEEN JAPAN, GERMANY AND ITALY

The Governments of Japan, Germany and Italy, considering it as the condition precedent of any lasting peace that all nations of the world be given each its own proper place, have decided to stand by and co-operate with one another in regard to their efforts in Greater East Asia and the regions of Europe respectively wherein it is their prime purpose to establish and maintain a new order of things calculated to promote the mutual prosperity and welfare of the peoples concerned. Furthermore it is the desire of the three Governments to extend co-operation to such nations in other spheres of the world as may be inclined to put forth endeavours along lines similar to their own, in order that their ultimate aspirations for world peace may thus be realized. Accordingly the Governments of Japan, Germany and Italy have agreed as follows:

I. Japan recognizes and respects the leadership of Germany and Italy in the establishment of a new order in Europe.

II. Germany and Italy recognize and respect the leadership of Japan in the establishment of a new order in Greater East Asia.

III. Japan, Germany and Italy agree to cooperate in their efforts on the aforesaid lines. They further undertake to

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assist one another with all political, economic and military means when one of the three contracting Powers concerned is attacked (either openly or covertly) by a power at present not involved in the European war or in the Japanese-Chinese conflict.

IV. Japan, Germany and Italy affirm that the aforesaid terms do not in any way affect the political status which exists at present as between each of the three contracting Powers and Soviet Russia.

V. The present Pact shall come into effect immediately upon signature and shall remain in force for ten years from the date of its coming into force.

At proper time before the expiration of the said term the High Contracting Parties shall, at the request of any one of them, enter into negotiations for its renewal.

In faith whereof, the undersigned, duly authorized by their respective Governments, have signed this Pact and have affixed hereto their seals.

Done in triplicate at , the day of



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Strictly Confidential

PROTOCOL

With reference to the Pact signed on this day by the representatives of Japan, Germany and Italy the Contracting Parties have arrived at the following understanding.

I. With a view to determine by consultation with one another the detailed arrangements on the co-operation and mutual assistance between Japan, Germany and Italy as stipulated in Paragraph III. of the Pact, Joint Military and Naval Commissions, preferably one at Tokio and another at Berlin or Rome, together with a Joint Economic Commission, shall forthwith be organized. The composition of the aforesaid Commission shall be determined through consultation by the Governments of Japan, Germany and Italy.

The conclusions of the said Commissions shall be submitted to the respective Governments for approval in order to be put in force.

II. Whether or not a Contracting Party or Parties has or have been attacked openly or covertly as stipulated in Paragraph III. of the Pact shall be determined by the respective Governments, and in case the fact of such an attack has been established the measure of mutual assistance of political, economic and military nature to be adopted by the Contracting Parties shall be studied and recommended by the aforesaid Commissions, subject to approval of the respective Government.

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III. As the co-operation and mutual assistance stipulated in Paragraph III. of the Pact have in view as fundamental aims the efforts to establish forthwith a new order in Greater East Asia and Europe, to eventuate in a new world order, blessing Humanity with a just and equitable peace, Germany and Italy shall, in time of peace as well as war, take all possible measures to restrain a Third Power or Powers on the Atlantic with a view to better enabling Japan, Germany and Italy to accomplish their common aim of establishing a new order in Greater East Asia and in the Pacific Basin in General.

In the event of Japan being attacked by a Power or Powers not at present involved in either the European War or the Sino-Japanese conflict referred to in the last part of Paragraph III. of the present Pact, Germany and Italy also undertake to come to Japan's assistance in the Pacific Ocean with all their means and resources.

IV. While Germany and Italy undertake to use their good offices with a view of improving relations between Japan and the U.S.S.R., Japan, Germany and Italy shall make utmost efforts to induce the U.S.S.R. to act in accord with the main purposes of the present Pact.

V. The Contracting Parties undertake to exchange from time to time without delay all useful inventions and devices of war and to supply one another with war equipments, such as aeroplanes, tanks, guns, explosives etc. with each Party

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may reasonably spare, together with technical skill and men, should they be required. Furthermore they are prepared to do utmost in furnishing one another with and in aiding one another in the efforts to procure minerals including oil and other materials as well as machinery for war industries and various requisites for livelihood with machinery of all sorts employed in the production of such requisites.

VI. The present Protocol shall remain secret and shall not be published.

Done in triplicate at , the day of



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Strictly Confidential

Excellency:

I have the honour to state that, the Japanese Government earnestly share the hope with the Governments of Germany and Italy that the present European War will remain limited as far as possible in its sphere and scope and will come to a speedy conclusion and that they shall on their part spare no effort in that direction.

However, the conditions actually prevailing in Greater East Asia and elsewhere do not permit the Japanese Government to rest assured that there is no danger whatever of an armed conflict taking place between Japan and Great Britain, and accordingly they desire to call attention of the German and Italian Governments to such a possibility and to ask the German and Italian Governments whether in such eventuality the Japanese Government may expect assistance and co-operation in every possible form as provided for under Paragraph III. of the present Pact *mutatis mutandis*.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency, the highest consideration.

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Strictly Confidential

Excellency:

I have the honour to state to Your Excellency that inasmuch as the German and Italian Governments recognize and respect the leadership of Japan in regard to the establishment of a new order in Greater East Asia, it is considered highly desirable by this Government that all the former German Colonies in the Pacific area should be ceded to Japan, without compensation in the case of the Group of Islands mandated by Japan and with proper compensation in the case of other mandated islands as well as those actually in British possession.

It is understood as matter of course that Japan shall accord a specially favourable treatment to the activities of Germany and her nationals in these regions as compared to any other nation or their nationals.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency, the highest consideration.

THREE POWERS PACT BETWEEN JAPAN, GERMANY AND ITALY

The Governments of Japan, Germany and Italy, considering it as the condition precedent of any lasting peace that all nations of the world be given each its own proper place have decided to stand by and co-operate with one another in regard to their efforts in Greater East Asia and the regions of Europe respectively wherein it is their prime purpose to establish and maintain a new order of things calculated to promote the mutual prosperity and welfare of the peoples concerned. Furthermore it is the desire of the three Governments to extend cooperation to such nations in other spheres of the world as may be inclined to put forth endeavours along lines similar to their own, in order that their ultimate aspirations for world peace may thus be realized. Accordingly the Governments of Japan, Germany and Italy have agreed as follows:

I. Japan recognises and respects the leadership of Germany and Italy in the establishment of a new order in Europe.

II. Germany and Italy recognize and respect the leadership of Japan in the establishment of a new order in Great East Asia.

III. Japan, Germany and Italy agree to cooperate in their efforts on the aforesaid lines. They further undertake to



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assist one another with all political, economic and military means when one of the three contracting Powers concerned is attacked (either openly or covertly) by a power at present not involved in the European war or in the Japanese-Chinese conflict.

IV. Japan, Germany and Italy affirm that the aforesaid terms do not in any way affect the political status which exists at present as between each of the three contracting Powers and Soviet Russia.

V. The present Pact shall come into effect immediately upon signature and shall remain in force for ten years from the date of its coming into force.

At proper time before the expiration of the said term the High Contracting Parties shall, at the request of any one of them, enter into negotiations for its renewal.

In faith whereof, the undersigned, duly authorized by their respective Governments, have signed this Pact and have affixed hereto their seals.

Done in triplicate at , the day of

PROTOCOL

With reference to the Pact signed on this day by the representatives of Japan, Germany and Italy the Contracting Parties have arrived at the following understandings:

I. With a view to determine by consultation with one another the detailed arrangements on the co-operation and mutual assistance between Japan, Germany and Italy as stipulated in Paragraph III. of the Pact, Joint Military and Naval Commissions preferably one at Tokio and another at Berlin or Rome, together with a Joint Economic Commission, shall forthwith be organized. The composition of the aforesaid Commissions shall be determined through consultation by the Government of Japan, Germany and Italy.

The conclusions of the said Commissions shall be submitted to the respective Governments for approval in order to be put in force.

II. Whether or not a Contracting Party or Parties has or have been attacked openly or covertly as stipulated in Paragraph III. of the Pact shall be determined upon consultation among the three Contracting Parties, and in case the fact of such an attack has been established the measures of mutual assistance of political, economic and military nature to be adopted by the Contracting Parties shall be studied and

recommended by the aforesaid Commissions<sup>S</sup>, subject to approval of the respective Governments.

III. As the co-operation and mutual assistance stipulated in Paragraph III. of the Pact have in view as fundamental aims the efforts to establish forthwith a new order in Greater East Asia and Europe, to eventuate in a new world order, blessing Humanity with a just and equitable peace, Germany and Italy shall, in time of peace as well as war, take all possible measures to restrain a Third Powers or Powers on the Atlantic with a view to better enabling Japan, Germany and Italy to accomplish their common aim of establishing a new order in Greater East Asia and in the Pacific Basin in general.

In the event of Japan being attacked by a Power or Powers not at present involved in either the European War or the Sino-Japanese conflict referred to in the last part of Paragraph III. of the Pact, Germany and Italy also undertake to come to Japan's assistance in the Pacific Ocean with all their means and resources.

IV. While Germany and Italy undertake to use their good offices with a view to improving relations between Japan and the U.S.S.R., Japan, Germany and Italy shall make utmost efforts to induce the U.S.S.R. to act in accord with the main purposes of the present Pact.

V. The Contracting Parties undertake to exchange from time to time without delay all useful inventions and



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devices of war and to supply one another with war equipments, such as aeroplanes, tanks, guns, explosives etc., which each Party may reasonably spare, together with technical skill and men, should they be required. Furthermore they are prepared to do utmost in furnishing one another with and in aiding one another in the efforts to procure minerals including oil and other materials, as well as machinery for war industries and various requisites for livelihood with machinery of all sorts employed in the production of such requisites.

VI. In conformity with the spirit which prompted the conclusion of the present Pact, the Governments of the Contracting Parties undertake to enter into negotiations without delay, with a view to deciding upon measures of assuring to the other Contracting Parties of their Nationals, in their commercial and industrial activities in the regions where the Contracting Parties are respectively recognized to have leadership by virtue of Paragraph I and II of the present Pact, a position which is preponderant in comparison to that of any Third Power and its nationals.

VII. The present Protocol shall remain secret and shall not be published.

Done in triplicate at , the day of

DET. DOC. #1656-0

Excellency:

I have the honour to state that, the Japanese Government earnestly share the hope with the Governments of Germany and Italy that the present European War will remain limited as far as possible in its sphere and scope and will come to a speedy conclusion and that they shall on their part spare no effort in that direction.

However, the conditions actually prevailing in Greater East Asia and elsewhere do not permit the Japanese Government to rest assured that there is no danger whatever of an armed conflict taking place between Japan and Great Britain, and accordingly they desire to call attention of the German and Italian Governments to such a possibility and they feel confident that Germany and Italy will do their utmost to aid Japan in such eventuality with all means in their power.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the highest consideration.

DEF. DCC. #1656-D

Excellency:

I have the honour to state to Your Excellency that inasmuch as the German and Italian Governments recognize and respect the leadership of Japan in regard to the establishment of a new order in Greater East Asia, it is considered highly desirably by this Government that all the former German Colonies in the Pacific area should be ceded to Japan, without compensation in the case of the Group of Islands mandated by Japan and with proper compensation in the case of other mandated islands as well as those actually in British possession.

It is understood as a matter of course that Japan shall accord a specially favourable treatment to the activities of Germany and her nationals in these regions as compared to any other nation or their nationals.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency, the highest consideration.



*Doc 16*  
THREE POWERS PACT BETWEEN JAPAN, GERMANY AND ITALY

The Governments of Japan, Germany and Italy, considering it as the condition precedent of any lasting peace that all nations of the world be given each its own proper place, have decided to stand by and co-operate with one another in regard to their efforts in Greater East Asia and the regions of Europe respectively wherein it is their prime purpose to establish and maintain a new order of things calculated to promote the mutual prosperity and welfare of the peoples concerned. Furthermore it is the desire of the three Governments to extend co-operation to such nations in other spheres of the world as may be inclined to put forth endeavours along lines similar to their own, in order that their ultimate aspirations for world peace may thus be realized. Accordingly the Governments of Japan, Germany and Italy have agreed as follows.

I. Japan recognized and respect the leadership of Germany and Italy in the establishment of a new order in Europe.

II. Germany and Italy recognize and respect the leadership of Japan in the establishment of a new order in Greater East Asia.

III. Japan, Germany and Italy agree to co-operate in their efforts on the aforesaid lines. If a power not at present included in the European War or the Chinese-Japanese Conflict commits an act of aggression against one of the three contracting parties, Japan, Germany and Italy undertake to declare war on such power and to assist one another with all political, economic and military means.

IV. With a view to implementing the present pact, conversations between the generalstuffs of the Japanese, German and Italian forces will be opened by technical commissions which will meet without delay.

V. Japan, Germany and Italy affirm that the aforesaid terms do not in any way affect the political status which exists at present as between each of the three contracting Powers and Soviet Russia.

VI. The present Pact shall come into effect immediately upon signature and shall remain in force for ten years from the date of its coming into force.

At proper time before the expiration of the said term the High Contracting Parties shall, at the request of any one of them, enter into negotiations for its renewal.

In faith whereof, the Undersigned, duly authorized by their respective Governments, have signed this Pact

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and have affixed hereto their Seals.

Done in triplicate at Tokyo, the day of September,  
1940.



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In our opinion an explicit emphasis of the obligation to declare war would have a specially strong neutralizing effect on America. America would certainly hesitate ten times before entering the war if the pact stated in clear and impressive terms that America would then automatically be at war with three great powers.

*Annex-8*

THREE POWERS PACT BETWEEN JAPAN, GERMANY AND ITALY.

The Governments of Japan, Germany and Italy, considering it as the condition precedent of any lasting peace that all nations of the world be given each its own proper place, have decided to stand by and co-operate with one another in regard to their efforts in Greater East Asia and the regions of Europe respectively wherein it is their prime purpose to establish and maintain a new order of things calculated to promote the mutual prosperity and welfare of the peoples concerned. Furthermore it is the desire of the three Governments to extend co-operation to such nations in other spheres of the world as may be inclined to put forth endeavours along lines similar to their own, in order that their ultimate aspirations for world peace may thus be realized. Accordingly the Governments of Japan, Germany and Italy have agreed as follows:

I. Japan recognizes and respects the leadership of Germany and Italy in the establishment of a new order in Europe.

II. Germany and Italy recognize and respect the leadership of Japan in the establishment of a new order in Greater East Asia.

III. Japan, Germany and Italy agree to co-operate in their efforts on the aforesaid lines. If a power not at present

included in the European War or the Chinese-Japanese Conflict commits an act of aggression against one of the three Contracting Parties, Japan, Germany and Italy undertake to assist one another with all political, economic and military means.

IV. With a view to implementing the present Pact, Joint Technical Commissions the members of which are to be appointed by the respective Governments of Japan, Germany and Italy will meet without delay.

V. Japan, Germany and Italy affirm that the aforesaid terms do not in any way affect the political status which exists at present as between each of the three contracting Powers and Soviet Russia.

VI. The present Pact shall come into effect immediately upon signature and shall remain in force for ten years from the date of its coming into force.

At proper time, before the expiration of the said term the High Contracting Parties shall, at the request of any one of them, enter into negotiations for its renewal.

In faith whereof, the Undersigned, duly authorized by their respective Governments, have signed this Pact and have affixed hereto their Seals.

Done in triplicate at Tokyo, the      day of September, 1940.



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Strictly Confidential

Excellency:

I have the honour to state that the following are some of the salient points of our several conversations that had taken place from the 9th to the 21st September, 1940, relative to the conclusion of the Three Powers Pact signed on this day:

1. Joint Technical Commissions, stipulated in Paragraph<sup>n</sup> IV, of the Pact, shall be organized at once together with a Joint Economic Commission. The composition of the aforesaid Commissions shall be determined through Consultation by the Governments of Japan, Germany and Italy.

The conclusions of the said Commissions shall be submitted to the respective Governments for approval in order to be put in force.

II. Whether or not a power not at present involved in the European War or the Sino-Japanese Conflict has committed an act of aggression against one of the three Contracting Parties as stipulated in Paragraph III. of the Pact, shall be determined upon consultation among the Japanese, German and Italian Governments, and in case the fact of such an aggression had been established the measures of mutual assistance of political, economic and military nature to be adopted by the Contracting Parties shall be studied and recommended by the aforesaid Commissions, subject to approval of the respective Governments.

III. As the co-operation and mutual assistance stipulated in Paragraph III. of the Pact have in view as fundamental aims the efforts to establish forthwith a new order in Greater East Asia and Europe, to eventuate in a new world order, blessing Humanity with a just and equitable peace,

Germany shall, in time of peace as well as war, take all possible measures, in conjunction with Italy, to restrain a Third Power or Powers on the Atlantic with a view to better enabling Japan, Germany and Italy to accomplish their common aim of establishing a new order in Greater East Asia and in the Pacific Basin in general.

In the event of Japan being attacked by a Power or Powers not at present involved in either the European War or the Sino-Japanese Conflict referred to in the last part of Paragraph III. of the present Pact, Germany also undertakes to come to Japan's assistance in the Pacific Ocean with all their means and resources.

IV. While Germany undertakes to use their good offices with a view to improving relations between Japan and the U.S.S.R., Japan and Germany shall make utmost efforts to induce the U.S.S.R. to act in accord the main purpose of the present Pact.

V. Japan and Germany undertake to exchange from time to time without delay all useful inventions devices of war and to supply mutually with war equipments, such as aeroplanes, tanks, guns, explosives etc., which they may reasonably spare, together with technical skill and men, should it be required. Furthermore they are prepared mutually to do utmost in furnishing with and in aiding in the efforts to procure minerals including oil and other materials as well as machinery for war industries and various requisites for livelihood with machinery of all sorts employed in the production of such requisites.

It is needless to say that the above understandings shall remain secret and shall not be published.

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It is desired that Your Excellency would confirm the understandings as above set forth.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency, the highest consideration.

Strictly Confidential

Excellency:

I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that, the Japanese Government earnestly share the hope with the Governments of Germany and Italy that the present European War will remain limited as far as possible in its sphere and scope and will come to a speedy conclusion and that they shall on their part spare no effort in that direction.

However, the conditions actually prevailing in Greater East Asia and elsewhere do not permit the Japanese Government to rest assured that there is no danger whatever of an armed conflict taking place between Japan and Great Britain, and accordingly they desire to call attention of the German Government to such a possibility and to state that they feel confident that Germany will do their utmost to aid Japan in such eventuality with all means in their power.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency, the highest consideration.



REF. ID: A6568 - S'

Strictly Confidential

Excellency:

I have the honour to ask Your Excellency to confirm the accuracy of the following oral declaration which was made by Your Excellency on behalf of the German Government:

"The German Government agree that the former German Colonies actually under Japan's Mandate in the South Seas will forever remain in Japan's possession against an adequate compensation. I regard to other former Colonies in the South Seas, the German Government undertake to confer with the Japanese Government upon and after the conclusion of the Three Powers Pact, in an accommodating spirit, with the view to disposing them as far as possible in Japan's favour."

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency, the highest consideration.

Strictly Confidential

Excellency:

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of Your Excellency's note of the date with the contents as follows:

"

I take this occasion formally to confirm the understandings above set forth.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency, the highest consideration.

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Strictly Confidential

Excellency:

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of Your Excellency's note of this date with the contents as follows:

"

I take this occasion to take note of the contents of Your Excellency's note.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency, the highest consideration.

Strictly Confidential

Excellency:

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of Your Excellency's note of this date and to confirm the oral declaration contained therein which reads as follows:

"

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency, the highest consideration.

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*Summary - 18*  
THREE POWERS PACT BETWEEN JAPAN, GERMANY AND ITALY

The Governments of Japan, Germany and Italy, considering it as the condition precedent of any lasting peace that all nations of the world be given each its own proper place, have decided to stand by and co-operate with one another in regard to their efforts in Greater East Asia and <sup>the</sup> regions of Europe respectively wherein it is their prime purpose to establish and maintain a new order of things calculated to promote mutual prosperity and welfare of the peoples concerned. Furthermore it is the desire of the three Governments to extend co-operation to such nations in other spheres of the world as may be inclined to put forth endeavours along lines similar to their own, in order that their ultimate aspirations for world peace may thus be realized. Accordingly the Governments of Japan, Germany and Italy have agreed as follows:

Article 1

Japan recognizes and respects the leadership of Germany and Italy in the establishment of a new order in Europe.

Article 2

Germany and Italy recognize and respect the leadership of Japan in the establishment of a new order in Greater East Asia.

Article 3

Japan, Germany and Italy agree to co-operate in their efforts on the aforesaid lines. They further undertake to assist one another with all



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political, economic and military means when one of the three Contracting Parties is attacked by a power at present not involved in the European War or in the Sino-Japanese Conflict.

Article 4

With a view to implementing the present Pact, Joint Technical Commissions the members of which are to be appointed by the respective Governments of Japan, Germany and Italy will meet without delay.

Article 5

Japan, Germany and Italy affirm that the aforesaid terms do not in any way affect the political status which exists at present as between each of the three Contracting Parties and Soviet Russia.

Article 6

The present Pact shall come into effect immediately upon signature and shall remain in force for ten years from the date of its coming into force.

At proper time before the expiration of the said term the High Contracting Parties shall, at the request of any one of them enter into negotiations for its renewal.

In faith whereof, the Undersigned, duly authorized by their respective Governments, have signed this Pact and have affixed hereto their Seals.

Done in triplicate at \_\_\_\_\_, the day of

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Strictly Confidential

Excellency:

I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that, the Japanese Government earnestly share the hope with the Governments of Germany and Italy that the present European War will remain limited as far as possible in its sphere and scope and will come to a speedy conclusion and that they shall on their part spare no effort in that direction.

However, the conditions actually prevailing in Greater East Asia and elsewhere do not permit the Japanese Government to rest assured in the present circumstances that there is no danger whatever of an armed conflict taking place between Japan and Great Britain, and accordingly they desire to call attention of the German Government to such a possibility and to state that they feel confident that Germany will do their utmost to aid Japan in such eventuality with all means in their power.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency, the highest consideration.

Excellency:

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of Your Excellency's letter of this date No. 1111 with the contents as follows:

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*Summit - 11*

I take this occasion to take note of the contents of Your Excellency's letter.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency, the highest consideration.



Strictly Confidential

*Amey - R*

Excellency:

I have the honour to ask Your Excellency to confirm the following oral declaration which was made by Your Excellency on behalf of the German Government:

"The German Government agree that the former German Colonies actually under Japan's Mandate in the South Seas will remain in Japan's possession, it being understood that Germany be adequately compensated there for. In regard to other former Colonies in the South Seas, they shall be restored automatically to Germany upon conclusion of peace ending the present European War. Afterwards the German Government would be prepared to confer, in accommodating spirit, with the Japanese Government with a view to disposing of them as far as possible in Japan's favour against compensation."

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency, the highest consideration.

Excellency:

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of Your Excellency's letter of this date No. 1111 and to confirm the oral declaration made by me concerning the former German Colonies in the South Seas which is contained in to Your Excellency's letter under reply.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew Your Excellency, the highest consideration.

LETTER FROM GERMAN AMBASSADOR TO  
FOREIGN MINISTER.

Excellency:

In the moment when our conversations concerning the Three Powers Pact are to be concluded successfully it is Minister Stander's and my sincerest desire to express to Your Excellency our heartiest regard for your leading and generous cooperation in most accommodating spirit. We should like to state once more in this letter the conformity concerning the salient points which we always have found in our conversations with Your Excellency in regard of the aims and details of the Pact.

The German Government are convinced that the Contracting Parties are going to enter in new and desire period of World History in which they will be charged with leadership of the establishment and new order in Greater East Asia, and in Europe. The recognition of our interest with are in conformity for the present time and for long future and unlimited mutual confidence of the Contracting Parties are forming the solid bases of the three Powers Pact. The German Government are convinced that the technical details of the Pact will be resolved without difficulties on fundamental confidence and that it would be contrary to the far reaching importance of the Pact to fix formally some single questions which would never thoroughly work out.

In Japan contrary to the aim of the Pact would be involved in a conflict with a power until now not belligerent, the German Government will be obliged without any doubt to assist Japan to the utmost

extent and will offer every possible military and economic support. Concerning the relations between Japan and Russia, Germany will help to obtain most friendly understanding and offer her good services for that purposes.

I have the honour to present to Your Excellency this principal statement in accordance with the ideas of the German Foreign Minister representative Minister Stamer and according to the repeated instructions of German Government transmitted to myself during the conversation concerning the Three Powers Pact.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency, the highest consideration.



*Quint - 14*

1. Does Ribbentrop insist on signing the Pact at Berlin?  
<sup>u</sup>  
Matsuoka has been negotiating the Pact all through with an  
^  
assuming that the Pact would be signed at Tokio which has  
been shared by all these who have taken part in deliberation  
concerning this question.

2. Waiving all formalities in order to expedite the  
matter, would it not be better to have only one text common  
to three Contracting Parties; that is English text on which  
we have been negotiating? If we insist<sup>s</sup> to have the Pact in  
three languages it would necessitate as to have German and  
Italian versions together with Japanese text for submission  
to Privy Council to be examined closely in each of the three  
languages. This would further postpone the conclusion and  
publication of the Pact which I hate to see. Again, one  
language text would go far towards to lessen possible dis-  
crepancy in interpretation.

Please also get us as quickly as possible answer this  
point.

3. Will you please ask Ribbentrop for the last time  
to agree to authorise the German Ambassador here to ex-  
change note with Foreign Minister (Matsuoka) on the contents  
of Draft Protocol as drawn up (of course not in the form  
of the secret Protocol) and try get answer as early as  
possible?

Copy-15

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THREE POWERS PACT BETWEEN JAPAN, GERMANY AND ITALY

The Governments of Japan, Germany and Italy, considering it as the condition precedent of any lasting peace that all nations of the world be given each its own proper place, have decided to stand by and co-operate with one another in regard to their efforts in Greater East Asia and the regions of Europe respectively wherein it is their prime purpose to establish and maintain a new order of things calculated to promote mutual prosperity and welfare of the people concerned. Furthermore it is the desire of the three Governments to extend co-operation to such nations in other spheres of the world as may be inclined to put forth endeavours along lines similar to their own, in order that their ultimate aspirations for world peace may thus be realized. Accordingly the Governments of Japan, Germany and Italy have agreed as follows:

Article 1

Japan recognized and respects the leadership of Germany and Italy in the establishment of a new order in Europe.

Article 2

Germany and Italy recognize and respect the leadership of Japan in the establishment of a new order in Greater East Asia.

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Article 3

Japan, Germany and Italy agree to co-operate in their efforts on the aforesaid lines. They further undertake to assist one another with all political, economic and military means when one of the three Contracting Parties is attacked by a power at present not involved in the European War or in the Sino-Japanese Conflict.

Article 4

With a view to implementing the present Pact, Joint Technical Commissions the members of which are to be appointed by the respective Governments of Japan, Germany and Italy will meet without delay.

Article 5

Japan, Germany and Italy affirm that the aforesaid terms do not in any way affect the political status which exists at present as between each of the three Contracting Parties and Soviet Russia.

Article 6

The present Pact shall come into effect immediately upon signature and shall remain in force for ten years from the date of its coming into force.

At proper time before the expiration of the said term the High Contracting Parties shall, at the request of any



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one of them, enter into negotiations for its renewal.

In faith whereof, the Undersigned, duly authorized by their respective Governments, have signed this Pact and have affixed hereto their Seals.

Done in triplicate at , the day of the month of the year of Syowa, corresponding to the

*Quincy - 16*

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

Excellency:

I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that the Japanese Government earnestly share the hope with the Governments of Germany and Italy that the present European War will remain limited as far as possible in its sphere and scope and will come to a speedy conclusion and that they shall on their part spare no effort in that direction.

However, the conditions actually prevailing in Greater East Asia and elsewhere do not permit the Japanese Government to rest assured in the present circumstances that there is no danger whatever of an armed conflict taking place between Japan and Great Britain, and accordingly they desire to call attention of the German Government to such a possibility and to state that they feel confident that Germany will do their utmost to aid Japan in such eventuality with all means in their power.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the highest consideration.

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

Excellency:

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of Your Excellency's letter No. 1111 of this date with the contents as follows:

"I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that the Japanese Government earnestly share the hope with the Governments of Germany and Italy that the present European War will remain limited as far as possible in its sphere and scope and will come to a speedy conclusion and that they shall on their part spare no effort in the direction.

"However, the conditions actually prevailing in Greater East Asia and elsewhere do not permit the Japanese Government to rest assured in the present circumstances that there is no danger whatever of an armed conflict taking place between Japan and Great Britain, and accordingly they desire to call attention of the German Government to such a possibility and to state that they feel confident that Germany will do their utmost to aid Japan in such eventuality with all means in their power."

I take this occasion to note the contents of Your Excellency's letter.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the highest consideration.



C E R T I F I C A T E

Statement of Source and Authenticity

I, Havashi, Kaoru, Chief of the Archives Section, Japanese Foreign Office, hereby certify that the document hereto attached in Japanese, English, German and Italian consisting of 156 pages and entitled "Outline of the Process of Imposing Various Penalties and of the Internal Procedure Pertaining to the Tripartite pact of Japan, Germany and Italy, and Pertaining Documents" is an exact and true copy of an official document of the Japanese Foreign Office.

Certified at Tokyo,  
on the 21st day of May 1947

/s/ K. Havashi  
Signature of Official

Witness: /s/ K. Urabe

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Correction

Mark the documents as follows:

1656 B-G - as - Annex 1  
1656 H - as - Annex 2  
1656 I - as - Appendix A of Annex 2  
1656 J - as - Appendix B of Annex 2  
1656 K - as - Annex 2  
1656 L - as - Annex 2  
1656 M - as - Annex 3  
1656 N - as - Annex 4  
1656 O - as - Annex 5  
1656 P - as - Annex 6  
1656 Q - as - Annex 7  
1656 R - as - Annex 8  
1656 S - as - Annex 9  
1656 T - as - Annex 10  
1656 U - as - Annex 11  
1656 V - as - Annex 12  
1656 W - as - Annex 13  
1656 X - as - Annex 14  
1656 Y - as - Annex 15  
1656 Z<sub>1,2</sub> - as - Annex 16  
1656 AA<sub>12</sub> - as - Annex 17  
1656 AB - as - Annex 18  
1656 AC<sub>12</sub> - as - Annex 19  
1656 AD<sub>1-7</sub> - as - Annex 20